3d.

Vicissitudo rerum,

AN

Elegiacall Poeme,

of the interchangeable courses
and varietie of things in this
world.

The first Part.

Omnia tempore producuntur, mutantur,
& consumuntur.

Imprinted at London by Simon Stafford, dwelling on Adling hill neere Carter lane.
1600.

To the Right honorable Sir William Howard knight, the Lord Howard of *Effingham*, Sonne and heyre *apparent to the Right Honorable Earle of* Nottingham, Lord high Admirall of *England*.

MInerua, fained goddesse of best *skill*,
Seem'd friendles to my sad & feeble *Muse*:
The *Sisters* nine bar'd me *Parnassus* hill,
Mount *Helicon*, where prailed *Poets* vse:
Therefore (my Lord) my pen deserues no praise,
But pardon. *Honor* pardons weake essayes.

The *Change of things*, in slender verse I sing,
A weighty subiect, common yet to all:
From lowest creature to the loftiest thing,
Nature her workes doth tosse like *Tennis ball*,
Now rayz'd by force, then downe again by *poyze*,
Rising ne falling, she showes not by *noyze*.

The Epiſtle Dedicatory.

But when ſterne *Time* eche thing created ſees,
She fawnes a while, and tenters it on *Pride*,
And ſoone ſhe frownes, and then forthwith decrees
To pull it downe, and lay that thing aſide.
Yet as a *mother*, ſhe againe doth beare
Some new: and that a while ſhe doth vpreare.

Thus *Time* by *turnes*, turnes all things out of date,
And will preuaile till ſhe her ſelfe haue end:
For ſure *things changes*, proue *time* terminate:
And *times* exchanges doth her turne portend.
This *time* once gone, a timeleſſe *time* ſhall bee:
Till then in *things* a changing ſtate wee ſee.

This mooues my *Muſe*, erſt ſilent, now to ſing,
Though ſlenderly, the ſwift exchange of *things*:
And this to you (my Lord) I fearfull, bring,
Wiſhing that time, that plants & puls downe Kings,
Would daigne long time to *her* that *ſtill is one*,
By *whome* we here enioy true *Helicon*.

At your Honors command,

Io. Norden.

SYth Time *applaudes to see* Varieties,
And nought more alters, then Times *chãging*
It fits the Time, *to sing sad Eligies* (*dayes*:
Of Things *exchanges, florish, and decayes.*

And how Things *past, rest now, as things forgot,*
And Things *that are, exchange and come to end.*
How Time *begins to solue the fatall* Knot,
Whereon the World, *and worldly things depend.*

Yea, Things *aloft of th' mouing* Firmament,
Are seene to alter by Times *swaying hest,*
The Heauens Spheres, Bodies *circumferent*
Are not as earst, but in their course oppest.

The Elements *and elementall things*
Do change, and by silent degrees decay.
The Sea *and* Land, Riuers *and water-*Springs
Stay not at one, but oft exchange their way.

And Man *himselfe stands as a wauing* Twig
Bent to and fro, or broken with the wind:
In no state constant, be he base or big.
Ech thing comes diuers, in his proper kind.

The Preface.

As by this first part *these are partly seene.*
The second *showes the* alterations
That in the world *by course of* Time *haue beene*
In Men, *in* Cities, Kings, *and* Nations.

Ouid. Metam. lib. 15.

——— *Sic tempora verti*
Cernimus, atque alias assumere robora gentes
Concidere has.

Mar. lib. 9.

Quid non longa dies? quid non consumitis anni?

1.

Ome ſing the Regall actes of worthy *Kings*,
Some of fell *Warres*, ſome of a publique *State*,
Some praiſe haut *Beawty*, ſome praiſe baſer things.
Wittes haue their change: *Will* ſtãds in higheſt rate.
Will, yet, doth wauer, *Pennes* paint *Loue* & *Hate*.
Therfore my pen ſhal publiſh change in all:
One onely *Eſſence* ſtanding firme from fall.

2.

The *Heauens* in their peereles pryde may boſt,
That they in their orbiculer figure
Are farre the freeſt, and by change vntoſt,
Keeping by turne, their *Reuolutions* ſure:
Though ſtill reuoluing yet alike endure.
As *Orbes* and *Circles* figures perfecteſt,
Held by all *Artiſtes* to excell the reſt.

3.

The *Heauens* ſeeme of moſt admired might,
Fixed on nothing, yet ſtand firme and faſt,
Prouidence Diuine them hath ſo ſet aright,
Worldes may not waue them, nor vnprop their baſt
Who then eſſayes to prooue they will not laſt,
Syth from creating, they are as they were,
Not changed by chace, nor alter'd by their ſtere.

4.

Theſe *Figures* then form'd of moſt perfect mold
Shaped by *Science* farre exceeding *Wit*,
If they haue change, how may the *baſer* hold,
That haue their *Vigors* b'influence of it?
A powre more potent boue this *Powre* doth ſit,
That giues and guides, and ſwayes all as it liſt,
In whome the *Heauens* and the reſt conſiſt.

And

5.

And all the *mouers*, and the voluing *spher*,
He first created, and disposed so,
As to haue progresse, and againe reuere,
To tell the *Times*, and *seasons* as they go:
Mouing in *Circles*, daily to and fro,
Ginning and ending, as their *Circles* bee,
Greater or lesser, distinct by degree.

6.

Ten *Spheres* in one, *Astronomers* do hold:
The tenth reuoluing in his fixed tide,
Twenty foure houres, and then his circle rold,
Againe reuolues, powers infinite her guide,
From East to West, still on the *dexter side*:
And by her course most swift and impetous,
The rest she moueth, most miraculous.

7.

For in the selfe same time she moues the rest,
Although their mouings contrary to her,
Be on *sinister part* from West to East.
And that the *ninth Astrologers* auerre,
Hath forty nine thousand yeeres thus to erre.
Thirty thousand to the eighth assign'd,
Againe, seuen thousand as the learned find.

8.

The *Sphere* of *Saturne* in her thirty yeeres
Returnes; and *Iupiter* in twelue, they sayne,
Doth runne his race. Fell *Mars* in two appeares
To end his course: reuoluing backe againe.
Sol, *Venus*, *Mercury*, haue one yeere to raigne.
The *Moone* the lowest, soone her circle rounds,
Twice foureteene daies, & then againe rebounds.

This

9.

This comely course, and order of this frame
May challenge most, if ilke *Perfection* be,
Or *State* not changing, but as still the same:
The *Heauens* yet, a body as wee see,
In all her parts from *Change* cannot be free,
Nor still persеuer, as they first were set,
Though none haue power, but *Power* diuine to let.

10.

Let *Time* bee *testie* in this cause of doubt,
That did begin when *Heauens* and *Lights* were made:
She was, and is, and shall remaine throughout,
But not alike, shee flourish'd, gins to fade:
Dayes, *Weekes*, and *Months*, and *Yeeres* she makes by trade:
All *these* doe change, none doth alike abide,
Summer, nor *Winter*, *Autumne*, or *Spring-tide*.

11.

The dayly mooving of this *Firmament*,
Distinguyes frowning *Nights* from fawning *Dayes*,
And either by such entercourses pent,
As they ne passe due time, nor make delayes:
None checks the *Sunne* to shade or send her rayes
To banish *Darkenes*, and to fill with *Light*,
What was eclipsed with the shade of *Night*.

12.

Yet neither *Day* nor *Night* continues one,
But by reciprocall exchange imparts
Each to the other *Time*, as *Time* is gone:
Time turnes the *Yeere* into his aptest parts,
And *Yeere* to *Yeere* lends time likewise by arts,
Rising, and falling, changing by degree,
The present vnlike the preter yeere wee see.

13.

The first and greatest *Mouer* of the rest,
Imparts her mooving to the lesser *Spheres*,
To men and beasts, and creatures as the *Test*,
And tries the bodies that *Nature* vpreares,
Proving their temper, and their temper steres.
Mong all the creatures that are earthly built,
Best temper'd stand, distemper'd soonest spilt.

14.

Nay, *mindes* inclines, and *manners* good and bad,
Proceede (some say) by moouings and aspects
Of *Heauens* Spheres, and *Plannets* wherewith clad,
That giue and take, and worke the sole effects
In *Men* and *Beasts*, and in all earthly *sects*:
All which beginne and end by *influence*,
That doth proceede by *Heauens* concurrence.

15.

Vertues and *vices*, *health* and *sickneſſe* too,
Long and short *life*, *force*, *feebleneſſe*, and *wit*,
Yea, *well* and *ill* the *Heauens* egge to doo:
All earthly bodies subiect vnto it.
Humane *affayres* prayse-worthie and vnfit,
Depend on these, that of themselues are not,
But stand created, to their proper lot,

16.

Though some *prerogatiue* aboue the rest
They haue. An *instrumentall meane* onely,
And not the *cause efficient* confest,
A fatall *Law*, *or* of necessitie,
None holds it so that hath *fidelitie*.
Let sacred *Wisedome* be our *studies* guide,
To stay on him that is, and will abide.

The

17.

The pleasing *Sunne*, with sweete resplending rayes,
Doth rise and set, and yeeldes such *influence*,
As earthly creatures glorie in the *dayes*,
Not in *sad nights*, that come by consequence,
The sunnie beames that comfort passed hence.
Men, *birds*, and *beasts*, *trees*, and the *hearbes* in field,
Bemone the lacke of what the *day* did yeeld.

18.

Whereby wee see the *Sunne* is held a gheſt,
That with his rayes filles all the *fields* with glee:
The *plants*, the hearbs, the blossoms, and the rest,
Vnfolde in token of *gratuitie*,
Preaching to *men*, the *Sunnes benignitie*,
That ayne reuiues their *members*, late neere dead:
All creatures ioy to see her beames espred.

19.

The *Sunnes* ascent, and her descent renewes
The *yeere* with change, as she comes farre or neere,
Her *course* oblique, depriues, againe endewes,
The earthly bodies, and their powers arere
The *Solstices* and *Equinoxes* bere:
As on the wings of the *Zodiackes* twelue signes,
The yeeres foure parts diuided by their lines.

20.

The *Winter* with his siluer hayres beginnes,
When *Capricorne* receiues declining *Sunne*,
As she returnes from *Autumne*, where she lins:
And with his cold and moysture now begunne,
Depriues the bodyes of their pride late wonne:
And all the creatures that of yore grew gay,
By like degrees doe wither and decay.

21.

The louely *Spring*, which liuely lends her skill,
To re'inſtall theſe creatures in their pride,
Enters the *Ram*, and equalize ſhe will
The *Nights* and *Dayes*. A moyſt and hotter tyde,
Reſtoring greene what *Winter* had vndi'de,
And yeelds them vigor that were erſt decayde:
All ſects reioyce to bee thus re'arrayde.

22.

Then comes the *Summer* with her gloomie rayes,
Imbracing *Cancer*, parching hote and drie,
Making ſhort nights, and the longeſt dayes.
The Summer *Solſtice* heaues the Sunne ſo hie,
That forthwith ſhe falles and alters by and by
The ſurface of the *Earth*, and all earthly things.
Thus *Time* turnes the worlds glaſſe with ſilent wings.

23.

Friendleſſe *Autumne* vnclothes againe apace,
All that the *Spring* had clad ſo fayre before:
The *Sunne* in *Libra* with beclouded face,
Affords ſad nights, longer then of yore,
Depriuing ſap, and withers by her lore
All vegitables, and tranformes the reſt:
A neceſſarie, but vnwelcome gheſt.

24.

The *Yeere* thus parted in her qualities,
Yeeldes great effects vnto the *Earths* creatures,
Compounded, termed *Elementaries*,
As of elementall temperatures:
Groſſe ſoone decay, the pureſt beſt endures:
Exceeding in one qualitie it dies:
Nought hath true meane that is below the skies.

25.

The *Moone* hath ſecrets in her times effects,
She ſwayes the *humors* ouer which ſhe raignes,
Increaſing, decreaſing, full, in aſpects,
Still ſhe diſpoſeth *Bodyes* and their *Vaines*.
In her ſome myſterie, no doubt, remaines,
That worketh wonders by the meane of her,
Which ſome affirme ſo farre: in it they erre.

26.

For ſhee a creature, can yeeld no *Euent*,
Compact, as other elementall things,
(Her vertue in *Decreaſe* and *Increment*)
But purer, and pure qualities ſhe brings,
Soring her circuite by diuiner wings:
And through the force of her high qualities,
She works in *Bodies* ſundrie faculties.

27.

As in the *Ebbes* and flowing of the *Deepe*,
By courſe, and by reciprocall retreat,
Moou'd by the *Moone*, as ſhe her courſe doth keepe:
The *Ebbe* makes emptie, *Flood* againe repleate:
The *Moone* in *Forme*, the *Sea* vnlike in *Seate*,
Their like concurrence and like changes ſhew,
The *Moone* and *Sea* alike to wane and grow.

28.

The *Starres* that wander, and that fix'd remaine,
Do cauſe in ayre great changes, *Cold* and *Heate*,
Windes, *Thunder*, *Tempeſts*, and great guſts of *Raine*,
And their *Aſpects* and *Oppoſitions* met,
Some ſtrange preſages of *Euents* beget,
Of *Warre*, of *Death*, of *Famine*, *Drought* and *Peſt*.
Yet nought befalles, but by ſupernall heſt.

29.

Though some affirme that these *mutations*
Of changes, and of strange and rare euents,
Proceede of such like *innouations*,
As heauenly bodies and their concurrents
Worke in the like compounded *Elements*,
And giue them *mouing*, *issue*, and *successe*,
As if *effects* proceeded of the *lesse*.

30.

The *lesse*, yet *great*, *lesse* in respect of *one*,
Who *mooues* the *Mouer* of these *Mooners* all:
He, he, the swayer of euents alone:
And *sinne* the cause that moues these to our thrall,
That moue and change, and cause *men* rise or fall:
Not as these will, but as the *Powers aboue*
Make them the meanes to checke for change of *loue*.

31.

The greatest changes and most rare euents,
In *States*, in *Kingdomes*, and in greatest *sects*,
Are sayd to issue of the *Spheres* dissents
The eight and ninth, not by their ioynt aspects,
Their awkward moonings breede rarest effects,
Not by their *natures* inclination,
But by their motiue *trepedation*.

32.

Besides coniunction of *triplicities*,
Of *Saturne*, *Iupiter*, and *Mars* aspecting,
Are held most powerfull *principalities*,
Greatest *alterations* effecting,
Their triplicities duely respecting:
Fierie, or ayrie, watrie, or earthly,
Th'euent corresponds the triplicity.

33

Of ſuch, ſome count ſeu'n ſince the world begunne,
(Fiue thouſand, fiue hundred, ſixtie two yeeres,)
The *eight* ſhall be when foure yeeres more are come,
By *teſte* of the beſt *Aſtrologers*.
Preſaged thus, it may well ſummon *teares*,
That he that rules may moderate his ire,
Leſt *World* conſume with fearefull guſts of *fire*.

34.

Seneca reports, *Belus* to foreſee
The vniuerſall *deluge* e're it came:
And when the conflagration ſhould be,
To burne the *maſſe*, as water drown'd the ſame,
When of the *Starres* ſuch *oppoſition* came,
As one right line might pierce their *circles* all
In *Cancer* ſigne: this laſt effect ſhould fall.

35.

The antique *Poets* in their Poems tel'd
Vnder their fondeſt *Fables*, *myſteries*:
By *Phaeton*, how heauens *powers* rebel'd
In *fires* force, and by the hiſtories
Of *Pirrha* and *Deucalion* there lies,
The like of waters impetuitie,
In part concurring with diuinitie,

36.

Which hath reueyl'd the *Worlds* deſtruction
By *water* paſt, her future fall by *fire*:
But holds the cauſe *ſinne*, not coniunction
Of *fire* or *waters* ſelfe-reuenging ire:
The *Powers* diuine commoue them to conſpire,
To make the earth and earthly *bodies* nought,
That doe defile, what he ſo pure hath wrought.

B 4

37.

The *Priests* of *Egypt* gazing on the starres,
Are sayd to see the *Worlds* sad ruines past,
That had beted by *fire* and *waters* iarres:
And how the *World* inconstant and vnchast,
Assayde by these, cannot alike stand fast.
Earthquakes and *warres*, *famine*, *hate*, *and pest*,
Bring perils to the *earth*, and *mans* vnrest.

38.

We at the present see *Times* changing state,
And *Natures* fearefull alterations,
As if *Time* now did preach the *Heauens* debate,
And *starres* to band in dismall factions.
Strange *signes* are seene, diuine probations,
That some *effect* will follow of *admire*,
Too late, when come, to say it will retire.

39.

The *Sunne* and *Moone* eclipsed ne're so much,
Comets and strange *impressions* in the *ayre*:
The *tydes* and swelling *flouds* were neuer such:
The *earth* doth tremble, *Nature* doth impayre,
Hid'ous *monsters* now possesse the chayre,
Where erst dame *Natures* true begotten seede
Sate truely graced in her proper weede.

40.

Such changes neuer haue beene seene of yore,
In *Countries* and in *Kingdomes*, as of late,
Manners, and *Lawes*, and *Religions* lore,
Neuer were prized at so meane a rate:
Such are the changes of this *earthes* estate,
It may bee sayd, *Times* wings beginne to frie,
Now couching low, that erst did soare so hie.

Yea,

41.

Yea, now is proou'd the progresse of the *Sunne*
To differ farre from priſtine gredience:
The *Solſtices* and *Equinoxes* run,
As in pretended diſobedience.
The *Sunne* obſerued by *Artes* diligence,
Is found in foureteene hundred yeeres to fall,
Neere twelue *Degrees* towards the Center ball.

42.

The *Zodiack* and all her partes and ſignes
Alter the courſe, that firſt they were aſsign'd,
And all the orbe of *Heauen* ſo combines,
As ſhe vnto her *Period* inclin'd.
Time paſt, farre greater then that is behind,
Doth prooue the *Heauens* in their greateſt *Pride*,
Subiect to changes and to waue aſide.

43.

Some eke affirme the earthly *Sphere* to erre:
Firſt ſet the *Center* of the concaue *Spheres*
Now ſtart aſide, (ſuppoſed not to ſterre.)
If ſo, the *Power* that *Earth* and *Heauen* ſteres,
By it foreſhowes the purpoſe that he beares,
That all the *Creatures* that he made ſo faſt,
Shall by *Degrees* alter, weare and waſt:

44.

Yet all the *Changes* that ſucceed below,
Proceed of *Moning*: *Moning* double is:
The firſt and chiefe, moues, yet not moued ſo:
The other mouers mooue by force of this,
But to moue rightly or to moue amis,
Without the firſt high *Prouidence* diuine,
They are vnable of their owne incline.

45.

Guyded they yeeld such *influence* of force,
As notwithstanding *alteration*,
They seeme to shew by fatall course, remorce
To creatures in their *generation*:
And by successiue *propagation*,
Corrupted things renew, grow, and decay
Vncessantly, by natures fatall way.

46.

The changes which successiuely accrew
Vnto the creatures of this lower part,
And bodies which the *Elements* endew
With habite, and which cunning *Natures* art
Contriues with ornaments, that in her mart
Are had, proceede of contraries,
That in them breede such strange varieties.

47.

For things compounded of the *Elements*,
Partake the like compounded faculties
Themselues vnlike, in *vertue* and *contents*
Make all their *subiects* contraries,
And mut'all discord in their offices,
Producing *fruits*, and in them enmitie,
Whereby they change by fatall destinie.

48.

The *water* thicked, doth resemble *stone*
Or earthie matter: vaporating, *ayre*:
The ayre enlightened, and her vertue gone,
Resembles *fire*: the *fire* extinct, comes *ayre*:
Ayre thicked, and by grosse *impayre*,
Gets *cloudes* and mistie *vaporation*.
All haue alternate variation.

So

49.

So theſe that wee call *Elements*, are not,
But onely like, and not indeede the ſame:
As each partaketh of the others *lot*,
Hath not ſelfe-*nature*, but the fayned *name*,
Yet is it ſeene from whence each of them came,
Like to the thing that each reſembles moſt.
From theſe *corrupt* comes al the earthly hoſt.

50.

Yet ſo prepared, as the *Power* aboue
Doth firſt decree to ſhape the loweſt things,
Diſcrepant and diuers, as it liſt, approue
Voyde of all *forme*. Hence formall bodie ſprings
In couert order, with concealed wings:
Nature her ſelfe flies to and fro vnſeene:
Till things haue life, none ſees where ſhe hath beene.

51.

Then viuall each thing wrayes his *faculties*,
And what in it hath chiefe *Predominance*,
Hot, cold, drie, or *moyſt*, meerely *contraries*,
All in one *body* haue like *penetrance*,
But farre vnlike in ſupreme gouernance:
The *chiefe* in force ſubdue the feeble ſort,
And foyle in fine the *body* they ſupport.

52.

The *Elements* repugnant each to each,
Yet ſeeme they all each other to imbrace:
But each on other makes alternate *breach*,
As one growes potent, th'other in diſgrace:
Their *Powers* vnequall, not their *natures* baſe
Doth winne or loſe, and gaines *contempt* or *prayſe*.
None ſeemes a coward, weakeſt giues eſſayes.

53.

As when a *Sparke* that moſt partakes of *Fire*,
Contendes a while, as farre as *Power* permits,
To dry a *Flood*, *Force* fayleth, not *Deſire*:
Likewiſe a *Drop* contendeth where it hittes,
To quench a *Flame*, that quenchles is by *Wittes*:
Such *Feede* they foſter, not of equall *Force*:
That which preuayleth, yeeldeth no *Remorse*.

54.

The *Earth* a maſſie *Lumpe*, is loweſt ſet:
The *Water* it ſurrounds, and lies diffuz'd
Through and about this *Orbe* as friendly met:
Yet do they ſtriue as if eche were abuz'd.
Ballanced they pend, mut'ally confuz'd.
The *Fire* and *Ayre*, light, are ſurmounted hie:
Yet ech polluted with his *Neighbour* by.

55.

The *Fire*, though higheſt and in pureſt place,
Betweene the *Heauens* and the ayrie *Sphere*,
Seemes not, yet hath, more then the *Ayres* diſgrace:
For when ſhe volueth, and reuolues arere,
She comes deformed by her often ſtere:
And forced downeward to the ayry cell,
Fals to the *Earth*, and ſo her *Forces* quell.

56.

The *Ayre* that ſwayes the region next to *Fire*,
Is in the vpper part moſt abſolute,
Moſt thin and pure, moſt like her firſt inſpire:
Her loweſt groſſe, the middle meane acute:
She thus vnequall in her tryple ſute,
Stands moſt corrupted here with vs beneath,
Corrupting bodies that by her do breath.

57.

And moſt inconſtant of the reſt ſhe fares,
Moſt variable in her beſt eſtate,
Turn'd as the *Place*, whereon ſhe lights prepares,
And as the *Starres* aſpect and haue their *Gate*:
So ſhe comes pure or of a groſſer rate,
With *Exhallations* and with *Vapors* thicke,
That riſe and fall, and in her *Lymit* sticke:

58.

Whence grow the *Clowdes*, the *Thunder*, & the *Windes*,
Hayles, *Froſt* and *Snowe*, and *Changes* manifold,
Which do afflict the *Earth*, and earthy kinds,
With *Natures* ſtriuings, oft tweene *Hot* and *Cold*.
Deſcent oft forced, and *Aſcent* controld,
Mooues *Warres* aboue in ayrie firmament,
Tweene water-clouds and others diſcontent.

59.

Then fals the *Rayne* erſt rayſed by the *Sunne*,
Of watry vapors, flying from below,
Forc'd downe againe, like twiſt arere vnſpun:
And thus the *Clowdes* by courſe do come and goe.
The *Ayre* now calme, forthwith fell winds do blow.
What more inconſtant then the *Ayre* can be,
Whereby all *Bodies* breathe, and change we ſee?

60.

And if *Aſtrologers* aucthority
May paſſe for proofe of th'iſſue of the winds,
The *Sunne* doth rayſe the winds cal'd *Eaſterly*:
And *Iupiter* the *Northern* in their kinds.
The *Southern Mars*, the *Moone* the Weſter bindes.
Some hold the *Zodiacks triplicities*,
To cauſe in th' windes ſuch ſtrange diuerſities.

61.

From East three signes of nature *hot*, and *drie*,
That are subiected to *Equator* line:
Then from the *Pole Antarctick* as they lie,
Three other *signes* the Southerne assigne,
The hot and moyst, three other then combine
In *Occident*, and in *Septentrion*,
The *cold* and *moyst* sway as the rest alone.

62.

These foure are *windes* accounted *principall*,
That haue alternate chiefe *preeminence*:
These haue againe foure windes *collaterall*.
All eight intire, sway with high diligence,
Eight other halfe *windes* of lesse efficence:
Betweene them each an equidistant part:
All *thirtie two*, which manage *Nauticke* art.

63.

These yet inconstant, full of change do blow,
Their *natures* differ, and their *properties*,
And alter as the part from whence they grow,
And place whereon they light, hath qualities:
And mouing thus, breede strange diuersities
In earth, and earthie bodies, and the seas:
Which mou'd, no wit nor weapons them appease.

64.

The *water* next, and most contiguous
Vnto the *ayre*, hath like varieties;
Now *calme* and *quiet*, now more impetous,
Wherein the *ships* and mightie *Argosies*
Flote vnder sayle, making the voyages,
That feede one countrey with anothers fruit.
Perill makes not the greedie *gainer* mute.

Yet

65.

Yet in his *traffick* is alternate ſtate.
Now golden *gaine* is guide vnto his *ioy*:
His *ioy* now alters, *ſorrow* in like rate.
The *ſeas* are ſullen, and the *winds* beene coy,
Their often *combates* coyners of annoy:
The *windes*, and *ſeas*, and *element* of ayre
Combining, bring ſtout hearts vnto deſpayre.

66.

The *waters* that the higheſt-Powers haue ſet
In ſecret *celles*, and *vallies* of the *deepe*,
Suround the *earth*, as if they had no let.
High powers their rage in *limits* faſt doth keepe,
Taming the *bellowes* that do mount ſo ſteepe,
And ſuffers not the proudeſt *waues* to paſſe,
Nor to breede perill to the earthie *maſſe*.

67.

The *ſeas*, a vniuerſall powerfull band,
Linckt in the *earth* with *veynes* and concaue *ſprings*,
That ſerue as *barres* to enter-locke the *land*,
And which throughout, a needfull *moyſture* brings,
Wherewith refreſh'd all vegitable things
Do yeeld their branches, buds, and bloome, and fruit,
Selfe *earth* to drie, to decke them ſo in ſute.

68.

Meere *reaſon* may admire to ſee the *ſeas*,
Raging with waues, as if infirnall *fire*
Them boyl'd, or *furies* reft the *earth* of *eaſe*,
And by and by the *rempeſt* to retire
Of ſelfe *accord*, without like humane *hyre*,
And reſt appeaſed, calme, in quiet caſe,
And as in *loue*, the *earth* againe imbrace.

69.

Earth yeelds the *seas*, a seat to rest them on,
And *waters* all by nature ponderous:
Though misty *Fogges*, through *exhalation*
Ascend, they fall againe more humidous,
In *droppes* or *mystes*, sometimes contagious,
And fill the brookes and riuers of the land
Who hasten soone vnto the marine strand.

70.

So as the *Waters* in *earths* bowels spred,
And *Riuers* that do runne as ornaments,
Vpon th'*earths* surface, are not in her bred,
But friendly lent, the *Oceans* excrements,
Rising and falling by swayde accidents
Salt from the *Seas*, by th'*ayre* refresh'd againe,
To shew what changes, *earth* and *seas* sustaine.

71.

The *earth* the *waters* doth support and beare,
The *Ocean* hath tryple motions,
From East to West, from North to South arere.
Thirdly the *ebbings*, and the *fluctions*,
Sixe houres rising, sixe howers digressions:
So eke the sea term'd *Mediterrany*,
And other waters of that faculty.

72.

The motiue causes who so seekes to know,
The *first* that moueth from the East to West,
The *firmament* is sayd to moue it so:
And that the *spheres* are moued and adrest,
To volue and reuolue by the higher hest.
Whereby the *Waters* take their orders gate,
Not of selfe *nature*, but so destinate.

73.

The fall from North to South is ſayd to bee,
For that the *waters* in *Septentrion*,
Are full and farre the higheſt in degree,
Engendred moſt in that cold Region:
In South the *ſunnes* hot exhalation,
Abates thoſe Seas, to which the greater fall
By changing courſes, yet perpetuall.

74.

The third that maketh *ebbes* and flowing *tydes*,
Hath beene, and is the *Moones* volution,
Moſt changing, in one ſtate ſhe neuer bides,
Full, halfe full, and of bicorned faſhion,
White, *pale*, & *red*, then cleere, then ſpotted on:
Sometimes apparent, ſometime hidden ſo,
As none perceiueth where the *Moone* doth go.

75.

Sometime ſhee ſhineth in the merkiſh night:
Sometime ſhe riſeth in the brighteſt day:
Sometimes eclipſed, cleane depriu'd of light:
Sometimes below, ſometime in higher way:
Neuer at one, but euer in eſtray:
Eaſt, South, and Weſt, her courſe vncertaine ſeene:
Artiſts beſt know, how all her courſes beene.

76.

The *Moone* thus changing, in her mouings make
Like changes in the vniuerſall *ſeas*,
Whoſe *ebbes* and *flouds* like changes by her take,
And neither ſeemeth to haue conſtant eaſe:
No *art* or *force* their mouings may appeaſe:
But as the *Powers* diuine of yore them ſet,
So they keepe courſe, vntill that power do let.

77.

Till then the *Moone* moues with the *Heauens* Sphere:
Twentie foure howres ſhe takes her turne to runne:
Two *ebbes*, two *flowes*, in *ſeas* ſhe makes appeare:
Sixe houres ſhee *flowes*, in ſixe her *ebbe* is done:
In ſixe doth each performe her taske begunne.
Increaſt and decreaſt, aſsignd and kept aright,
Approue the powers that guide them, of great might.

78.

Yet ſtill vnlike, ſhee doth increaſe and fall
Alternately, as time and place aſsigne:
Seu'n dayes ſh'increaſing to her higheſt wall,
Seu'n dayes likewiſe, ſhee doth againe decline.
Sea-men the firſt, *Spring-tydes* aptly define:
The latter or decreaſing ſtreames they call
Nepe-tides, when ſeas grow to the low of all.

79.

Theſe tydes againe are of vnequall ſtate:
That ſwelling high, *this* lower ayn by farre:
The next more higher, or of lower rate.
All other *tydes* haue like alternate Iarre,
Alwayes afflicted with inteſtine warre,
That makes the *Mariner* to ſigh or ſing,
Hurl'd downe, or heau'd aloft by *Neptunes* wing.

80.

The *Moone* North-eaſt, doth make the ſea at full:
South-eaſt, low water. Thus the *Moone* doth guide
Not onely humors, making ſharpe or dull.
Wittes, *ſences*, *bodyes* (as ſome verifide)
But *ſea* and *land*, as things vnto her tide.
And as ſhe wauers, and oft changeth ſtate,
So do the things by her thus deſtinate.

Oft

81.

Oft doe some *Riuers*, and some *fountaines* drie:
Oft doth the *earth* yeeld forth new water-springs:
Oft doth reuiue, *what* seemed erst to die:
Oft doubtfull ginning, sweetest *issue* brings:
Oft greatest comfort growes by grieuous things.
Nothing the same, and as the same abides,
But *God* the guide, nought standeth firme besides.

82.

Hee is that *essence* that beganne of nought:
Hee is that *Mouer* of the mouing skies:
Hee is the *concord* that true *vnion* wrought:
Hee is the meane by whom all *destinies*
Turne to the ends, that hee did first deuise.
Yet are the *Heauens* and the *Earth* maintain'd
By *discord* excellent, that hee ordain'd.

83.

Can *discord* then (so much dispraysed) bee
The meane to keepe things by their *contraries*?
Can *enmitie* haue such equall degree,
As may make *vnion* in *qualities*?
Hath sad *contention* such sweete faculties,
As may support in true tranquillitie,
The *bodyes* wherein is *disvnitie*.

84.

Then did *Heraclitus* conceiue it right,
Who did affirme the *parents* of all things
To be good *concord* in a *discord* pight.
And *Homer* said, Who blameth contendings,
Reproueth *Nature* in distributings.
Empedocles did call that *amitie*,
That had and held concording *enmitie*.

85.

Yet thus, this *disagreement* must bee set,
As in the *discord* bee no power to wrong:
For why? supremest haue no fatall let,
But will preuaile, as they become too strong.
Therefore such *meane* must them be set among,
As though things bee compact of *contraryes*,
They must by *ballance*, haue like quantities.

86.

Or else sadde *ruine* will surprize the thing,
Wherein the *Elements* are at a iarre,
Where eke the *principles* diuided, bring
Into the body, such internall *warre*,
As striues for *victorie*, to make or marre.
And sodainely the *body* pines or dies,
For that the strongest works most *maladies*.

87.

The *Heauens* haue their *moouings* contrarie,
But equally disposed, vphold the rest:
Where, if they mou'd one way, their harmonie
All of one straine, of *discord* dispossest,
They soone would runne to ruine al oppreſt:
Like to a *clocke*, whose wheeles runne all one way,
Rash, of no vse, without a *counterstay*.

88.

The *Planets* also in their faculties,
Are set by *Prouidence*, that did foresee,
That if they were without their contraries,
Among themselues some sodain change would be.
A *meane* therefore to keepe the *Heauens* free
From sodaine ruine, *Power diuine* hath set
(As *moderator*) *termes*, that none may let.

Milde

89.

Milde *Venus* as a moane, is placed neere
Vnto fell *Mars*, to counterchecke his ire,
And helping *Iupiter*, next to the Sphere
Of malignant *Saturne*, leſt they conſpire,
And wrecke the Iurie of their fell deſire
Vpon the reſt: if they were not control'd,
Their wrath would worke the worlds ill manifold.

90.

The *world* inferior, compoſed ſtands,
Of *Elements*, which are by nature foes:
And each with other, in his *nature* bands,
And each his force and *malice* doth diſcloſe.
Yet are all *bodies* wholly fram'd of thoſe:
And their due *order* and *proportion*
Conſerueth long, diſcording *vnion*.

91.

None muſt exceede in his extreme degree:
For all by *nature*, reft of *mixtion*,
Are ſo vnequall, nothing can bee
Formed of one, without deſtruction.
But of the foure, equall *proportion*
Is found the *fountaine*, whence doth flow the *ſeede*,
Whereof all *creatures* in the *earth* do breede.

92.

For in this worldes great *maſſe* are found to lie,
Earth, *Water*, *Ayre*, and *Fire*, *Sunne*, *Moone*, and *Starres*,
Matter and *forme*, *ſubſtance*, and *quantitie*,
Simple, *compound*, *actiue*, and *paſsiue warres*.
Theſe of themſelues haue ſuch diurnall *iarres*,
As trie the *body*, yet preſerue it ſo,
As *diſcord* ſeemes a friend, and not a foe.

93.

In humane *bodies* is a *discord* set,
Choler and *blood*, *fleame* and *melancholie*,
These foure the foure *complections* beget:
Among them *Nature* hath sent enmitie.
Yet stands the *bodie* of this contrarie,
Which could not liue, if one alone did raigne:
One too too strong, the other three complaine.

94.

All other *bodies* are compos'd as this,
Not of a like, but of vnlike in kind.
As praysed body *Oeconomick* is,
Of *husband*, *wife*, and *children* them assign'd,
Lord and *slaue*, *master* and *seruant* wee find
To liue vnlike, yet in good harmonie,
If true concording *discord* beautifie.

95.

A body *politike*, or publike *state*,
Hath like dissents, which yet assenting stands:
The *King*, the *subiect*, and the magistrate,
Noble and *base*, *rich*, *poore*, *peace*, and warlike *bands*,
Law, *religion*, *idle*, working *bandes*,
Old, *yong*, *weake*, *strong*, good men and euill bee
Dislike in parts, yet in *consort* agree.

96.

All *Arts* haue *discord*, yet in vnitie
Concording, as in *musicke*, *high* and low,
Long and *short*, these compose the *harmonie*.
The *paynter* doth by contraries forth show
By liuely hand, what *Nature* doth bestow,
By colours, *white*, *blacke*, *red*, and *greene* and *blew*:
These *contraries* depaynt right *Natures* hew.

Nothing

97.

Nothing appeares, or can bee layd the thing,
Without the contrarie: *darke* from the *light*,
Sickneſſe from *health*, cold *winter* from the *ſpring*,
True *peace* from *warre*, ſweete *loue* from foule *deſpight*,
Iuſt from *vniuſt*, *truth* from the thing *vnright*,
None can diſtinguiſh, but by *qualities*,
That are diſcouer'd by their *contraries*.

98.

Who can diſcourſe of *griefe*, that neuer grieu'd?
Who ſpeakes of *colours*, that could neuer ſee?
Who preacheth *ioyes*, that is of *ioy* bereau'd?
Who thinkes of *freedome*, that was neuer free?
Some *contraries* accord, ſome diſagree.
Yet perfit is Dame *Natures* art in things:
For by diſſent, ſhe true *aſſenting* brings.

99.

Yet hath not *Nature* made that earthly thing,
But made to it ſome thing the contrarie:
And each to each extends a fatall ſting:
Birdes, *beaſts* and *plants*, haue all *antipathy*:
Tweene *God* and good *men*, onely *ſympathie*,
Whoſe ſacred ſpirit by his ſweete inſpire,
Seaſons our ſoules with ſacred ſweete *deſire*.

100.

Yet man is not free from his fatall foe,
That firſt ſupplanted *Adam*, antique ſire,
And works to wrecke on *Adams* line, like woe:
Beleeuers onely make this foe retire.
Sacred *Meſsiah* payde that deathfull hire,
Whereby wee liue, and haue *eternitie*,
Though here beclowded with the contrary.

101.

What passionate *inconstancie* haue *men*,
Which shew *affections* so contrarie?
No *creature* to a *creature* worse hath ben,
Then man to man, who in hot enmitie,
Hath wrought each other deadly destinie.
Yea, some that deerely lou'd before, comes foes,
And foes come friends: some work themselues their woes.

102.

Nay, man within himselfe hath selfe *debate*,
His *soule* and *body* are at deadly feede.
Yet *man* himselfe is as a publike *state*,
And *reason* Prince seemes so to sway that steede,
As foule *concupiscence* that sowes her seed
In fleshie furrowes to corrupt the soule,
Should not preuaile, but haue her due controule.

103.

No maruaile then, if brutish creatures beene
In priuate warre, the *Millet* and the *Pike*,
The *Cocke* and *Foxe*, the *Eagle* and the *Wren*,
The *Kite*, and *Crow*, the *Tode* and *Spider* like,
That doe each other of selfe-nature strike:
Which makes each sect to stand in feare to fall,
Sith each hath foes, and foes are full of gall.

104.

What makes a *Kingdome* to continue long,
But feare of foes, that breedes preuenting *mindes*,
And *mindes* forbidding to do neighbours wrong,
Lest *Iustice* punish, where deseruing binds?
Nought but *securitie* a *kingdome* blindes.
But when it sees apparent *enemies*,
It then takes heede, they are her *contraries*.

105.

The *Lacedemons* made ſtout *Athens* feare.
The *Romanes* rouzed *Carthage*, then ſecure.
The *Saxon* furies did the *Brytens* weare.
All ſtates haue foes, and yet they may endure:
Though peace to pietie ſhould beſt allure.
Yet is it ſeene where is no feare of thrall,
That ſtate ſoone ſtumbles, and hath foreſt fall.

106.

For *pride* pricks people that are free from *foes*.
And *riches* rauiſh *mindes*, dip'd in *deſires*,
To clime aloft. And pleaſantly hee rowes,
That hath no winde nor tyde to checke aſpires:
When he but ſeemes to rowe, indeede retires.
All haue their ends, and all are borne to change,
Croſ'd, or at quiet, all like race doe range.

107.

And though the *Elements* diſtributed,
As may be thought, in true *proportion*:
And *bodies* feele them not diſtempered,
Fit *lineaments* and due *coniunction*:
There will in fine be yet *confuſion*.
For what ſo is compact of *contraries*,
By *combates* fall to mortall maladyes.

108.

Then is it ſeene that *earth*, and earthly things,
Conſerued long by *Heauens* influence,
And *Elements*, the foure pretended *kings*,
That keepe all *creatures* in obedience:
Although they haue moſt due ingredience,
Their *diſcord* ſeeming moſt ſweete *concordance*,
In fine they periſh by *diſtemperance*.

109.

Now let vs see the *earth*, and all her *parts*,
Her *places*, and her strange diuersities,
And how the *Heauens* aspects are found by arts
To worke in men, and things antipathyes,
Or by consent of *Clymats*, simpathies,
How *plants* and *fruites*, how *birds* and *fishes* fare,
That all throughout this *orbe* dispersed are.

110.

The *Heauens* and *earth* diuided by the *Zones*,
Appeare to haue fiue fit partitions,
Two *cold*, one *hote*, and two *temperate* ones.
Some seeke to proue by strong assertions,
The *cold* and *hote*, of these diuisions,
Were not, nor may at all bee habited:
Two onely are, that are well tempered.

111.

The *Zones*, they say, beneath the *poles*, are cold,
And so exceede, in that extreame they kill
The creatures that in them doe couet hold.
The middle *Zone*, neath *Equinoxe* as ill,
That burnes the creatures subiect to her will:
And onely two, that lie on either side,
Do foster *men* and *creatures* vndenide.

112.

Yet is it found by due experience,
That all haue people and commodious things,
And *Natures* might and sweete beneficence,
So swayes the Clymats, and such issue brings
Vnto this *orbe* of earth, and earthly things,
As all her parts and limits are beset
With men and fruite, that Nature daignes to get.

Yea,

113.

Yea, in the *North*, vnder the coldeſt *clime*,
Dwell ſundrie people, and great Nations,
Long ſince, and ſome found in this latter time,
Diuers in *tongues* and *habitations*,
In *Lawes*, *Religions*, and in *faſhions*.
And though the *cold* ingender *Ice* and *Snow*,
Men trauaile, traffick, plant, warre, ayre, and ſow.

114.

As they that dwell in *Lythuania*,
Lynonia, *Sweden*, and *Eſtoteland*,
Perima, *Condora*, *Noua*, *Zembla*,
In *Norway*, *Muſcouia*, and *Finland*,
In *Iſeland*, *Freyſland*, and in *Lappen-land*.
Theſe and farre more, lie in *Septentrion*,
Though a diſtempered and cold Region.

115.

Yet when the *Sunne* brings to them wiſhed light,
And thawes the waters, erſt congeal'd with cold,
Then doth retire their long and wearie night,
And fruits, and plants, and trees them then vnfold,
And make the *earth* more ſweeter to behold.
And men that erſt in couert *caues* did dwell,
Like winter ſleepers, rouze them from their cell.

116.

For as all *Regions* are found to lie
On th'one, or th'other ſide th'*equator* line:
Their diſtance farre, or their propinquitie,
Doe ſhew how much or little they decline,
Which doth the length of nights and dayes deſine.
And as the *Sunne* comes neere, the *dayes* doe grow,
And as ſhee paſſeth from, the nights doe ſo.

117.

The *limites* that do bound the world about,
Are *South*, and *North*, *East*, and *West* opposited:
The first two, firme and stable seeme throughout.
Two last moue, as *Sunne* comes low or hight'ned
In the *Zodiacke*, and signes obliqued.
Which makes the *East* and *West* to alter so,
(Some hold) as *Sunne* is seene to come and go.

118.

And though the countreyes in extremities
Of hot and cold, seeme much distempered:
They yeeld of precious things varieties,
Wherewith all *other parts* are plenished.
For *Nature* sweetely hath distributed
Her friendly fruites to all, that all may see,
That good, and great, and full of fruites is she.

119.

She hath ordain'd the *Indies* of the East,
With *Pearle* of price, with stones of highest deeme,
The *Emerald*, the *Ruby*, and the rest,
Which potent Princes hold in such esteeme:
As in respect, the purest *gold* doth seeme
More base then these, yet these more base then it,
Tride by the *Test*, the *Quintessence* of *Wit*.

120.

Thence comes the *Elephant*, a beast of might,
Of maiestie, and humane courtesie:
And the * *Rinoceros* with vertues dight:
Whose bloud, bones flesh, and skin, haue secrecie,
As Phisicke rules hold most salutarie.
There is also the loftie Palme, a tree,
That beares a fruit, whereof good wine may bee.

* *The Rinoceros a beast, whose parts are all Phisicall.*

And

121.

And thence the *ſilke*, high *Honours* ornament,
Or rather Sirick, comes from Sirrick ſteede;
In great eſteeme, yet but wormes excrement,
That liues and dyes, and dying leaues a ſeede,
That dieth not, but of it other breede.
High *Peeres* beholden to this ſilly beaſt,
Deck them with that, which it eſteemeth leaſt.

122.

Arabia South, not of leſſe conſequence,
Yeeldes forth her talent, ſable *Ibony*,
Fineſt *Cottons*, *Mirrhe*, and ſweeteſt *incenſe*,
And *Iewrie*, which of yore had dignitie,
Affords the loftie *Cedar*, and ſweete *Balſamy*:
So much imbraced for her *vertues* might,
In healing hurts of wounded men in fight.

123.

Moluccaes in the fartheſt part of *Weſt*,
Yeelds *Pepper*, *Cloues*, *Mace*, *Cinamon*, and *ſpice*,
Ginger, *Nutmegs*, and Phiſick drugs the beſt.
Yea, from the South comes many things of price.
Elſe where are found by *nauticke arts* deuice,
Sweete *Ciuet*, and the fineſt *Caſsia*,
That Marchants bring from *Aethiopia*.

124.

In *Callicute* the ayre moſt temperate,
The countrey neuer touch'd with peſt:
All trees and plants are ſtill in greene eſtate,
Yeelding each month new fruites, then in requeſt:
Fayre, ſweete, and pleaſant: diuers yet in teſt.
Which eke doe differ from all other frutes,
In colour, forme, and in their diuers ſutes.

125.

In *Syria*, where stood fayre *Paradise*,
As antique writers doe the place assigne,
About *Damascus*, *Natures* benedice,
Appeares in *corne*, in *flesh*, in *fruit*, in *wine*,
Quinces, *Pomegranets*, and fruits of that line,
Oliues and *Almonds*, and the fragrant Rose,
Sing sundrie prayses by their sweete disclose.

126.

But contrarie this blessing is deni'de
To many people fell and barbarous:
To them that in *Tartara* abide,
And in *Arabia*, robustious,
That follow cattel, liuing beastious,
Mooving by troupes, feeding on milke and grasse,
Seldome returning, as they erst did passe.

127.

But in the countreyes of Ciuilitie,
Where Lawes do leade, and where Religion guides,
The people there, liue well and decently,
And plant, and sow, reape, and what besides
May yeeld supplie, fit for all wants and tydes.
These changing courses, shew dame *Nature* may
Giue, or depriue: none countermaundes her way.

128.

Her vertues streames, and bountie richly flow,
From parts and *Clymates* best etempered,
Where *ayre* and *waters* holsomely bestow
Health and fertilitie, things gloried
Of *men* and *beasts*, that bee well qualified,
In *vigor*, *colour*, and *complection*,
But in extreames ill *constitution*.

129.

The *Ethiopians* neere to the ſunne,
With parching beames, that on them doe reflect,
Their colours *blacke*, ſome *tawnie*, ſome are *dunne*,
The *head* and *beard* are friſled of that ſect,
Their *bodies* drier by the ſame effect,
Sharp witted, fierce, ſterne, and of warlike minds,
And differ much from them of colder kindes.

130.

The people in *Septentrionall* parts,
In countries cold, and Icie regiments,
Haue ſofter *skinne* and *white*, yet brutiſh *hearts*:
For theſe *extreames* breede ſeele good rudiments:
Yet in them both *natures* habiliments.
Their ſtature tall, their courage cruell ſet,
As heate and moyſture their extremes beget.

131.

Like difference in other things is found,
In herbes, in trees, and things inanimate,
They grow or wither as they like the ground:
Things of one kind ſtand not in like eſtate,
Too hot or cold, too drie or humidate.
All vegitables doe proue beſt in land,
Where ayre is ſharpe, yet not too ſharpe at hand.

132.

Some *plants* applaude, (yet as their nature willes)
On drieſt ground, ſome on the moyſter ſteede:
Some on the *vallyes*, ſome aloft the *hilles*,
Pine trees and *Ceders*, and the *Firre* agreed,
To chooſe high *mountaines* for their better breed.
The *Oke* and *Beech*, the *Aſhe* and *Hazell* tree,
In lower land and *Forreſts* beſt agree.

133.

The *Alder*, *Popler*, and the *Willow* loue
To liue below, where rilles of water runne.
Each creature seekes (by nature) best behoue:
Their *will perseuers*, as it first begunne.
Art yet may alter, and it may be wonne,
To like the *place* which was not first assign'd,
Yet not, if *nature* doe it counterbind.

134.

For if the *Orange* and the *Lemon* trees,
Be brought from *Spaine*, and set in Englisn soyle,
They grow perchance, their *nature* yet they leese:
And he that plants them, lendes a fruitlesse toyle:
As wash a *Moore* (blacke still) *Art* hath the toyle.
Nature preuaileth, maugre *industrie*,
In things where *Nature* will haue dignitie.

135.

The *Vine* and *Figge tree* do refuse to grow
In *Babylon*, yet found a fertill land.
And *Indie* Occident, doth seeme a foe
To *Oliue* trees, there planted, will not stand
But fruitlesse, none therefore doth take in hand,
To sowe or set, the *kernelles* roote none take:
They loose their labour that doe triall make.

136.

No place is yet of that sterrilitie,
But yeeldes a portion and beneuolence
To *man*, a subiect who hath soueraignte
Ouer all creatures. *Natures* efficence
Begets and leaues them to mans *diligence*:
And *diligence* discreete obtaines the lot
Of *life* and *libertie*, which *sloth* hath not.

For

137.

For *gold* and *siluer*, *lead*, and *tynne* lie dead,
And sundrie precious things, in minerals:
None find the *celles* wherein these things bee bred,
But such as diue into the *earths* entrals,
Which *art* and *labour* find out by trials.
For *Nature* giueth men *hands*, *feete*, and *eyes*,
To worke, to walke, to see, *hearts* to deuise.

138.

Which well is seene among men qualifi'd
In sacred gifts, learning to liue aright:
They onely rule, they onely rectifi'd,
Doe onely polish *Nature* with *Arts* light,
Disposing creatures pleasing to the sight:
As *Plants* and *trees*, *gardens* and *Orchyards* fayre,
Fraught with fayre *fruites* in the holsom'st ayre.

139.

In this doth *Europe* farre excell the rest.
Spaine, *Italy*, *France*, high, low *Germany*,
And *England* Northmost, equall with the best.
The first most famous for sterrillitie:
The last hath fame for sweete fertillitie.
They haue the *art* that *nature* beautifies,
And *nature* giues the rest their dignities.

140.

Thus prouidence *diuine* distributes things
To *men* and *people*, and to *Nations*
Peculiar. Most bountifull shee brings
Vnto them all change of *conditions*.
Land lendes to Land such contributions,
As may supplie each others needfulnesse.
That land wants most, that wants *Truths* heedfulnesse.

141.

Yet in the barreyneſt, where truth is not,
And where true *light* lends not releeuing rayes,
There yet haue beene, and are ſome gifts by lot,
That ſauour, ſome, (as blemiſh'd) of diſprayes,
And ſome of *vertue*, all grow by *eſſayes*.
Eſſayes breede *vſe*, *vſe*, *cuſtome*, *cuſtome*, *arts*,
Arts ayding *Nature*, perfit both their parts.

142.

The parts of *Nature*, yet moſt abſolute,
Not ſubiect to the *Art*, for *Art* ſhee breedes:
If ſhee denie, *Arts* all ſtand dumbe and mute,
Art onely growes from *Natures* working deedes,
Which firſt did ſowe in *Ariſtotle ſeedes*,
That grew to *branches*, others brake the ſame
And planted in their *braines*, thence *Logicke* came.

143.

Auicen and *Gallen*, and the moſt of skill,
That firſt did find the *ſimples* Natures out,
Were not firſt helpers, but at firſt did *kill*.
Nature gaue *wit*, *wit* held the thing in doubt:
Doubt then made proofe, *proofe* brought the thing about,
And found the hearbs, fit Phiſick for vnſound:
Phiſicke minerals *Paracelſus* found.

144.

Geometrie the mother of all Arts,
Was not at firſt found by a former Art:
Nature did firſt delineate thoſe parts,
That *Wits* and *Willes* might come vnto her mart,
And buy by practiſe (to adorne the heart)
The principles of Art, as *Archimedes* did,
Archytas too, and other, to ſome hid.

Art

145.

Art in *Astrologie* grew by degree,
The *Babylonians* excel'd therein:
Imperfect first, til Nature gaue to see:
Anaximandes did the art begin:
Since many famous in the same haue bin.
But if high *Nature* doe forbid the skill,
None comes to *Art*, vsing what meanes he will.

146.

Yet some by nature haue such apt incline
To this or that, as holpen by *Arts* light,
Doe see the secrets of that Art (for signe)
To which if they attribute meanest might,
They soone attaine, when others not so dight,
May striue and struggle to atchieue the same,
But yet in vaine, *Nature*, not *Will*, to blame.

147.

To some yet, are some common faculties,
And people of some lands haue priuate skill,
In some peculiar *trades* and *mysteries*,
Which doe preuaile by *Nature* more then *will*,
As if the soyle did learne them what they nill:
But there it seemes *Nature* and vse agrees:
And willing minds seldome their labour leese.

148.

The *Scithians* did will, and vse to ride:
They grew so excellent, they gained fame,
Their *horses* and good *horsemanship* their pride.
By Bowes the *Parths* and *Medes* gat greatest name:
And *English* Archers famous for the same.
But now of late, by course they leaue the thing
That got them fame, and glorie to their King.

149.

The *Iriſhmen* ſtrong and robuſtious,
Vſe for offenſiue weapons, armed darts,
Their armes are actiue, bodies valerous,
Caſting by force, aſsiſted by their arts:
No people equalize them in theſe parts.
Their natures and their educations one,
Makes them moſt famous in theſe arts alone.

150.

Although of yore the *Sarmates* and the *Getes*,
Cretens, *Armaſpi*, and the *Perſes* were
Admired moſt excelling in theſe fetes,
Th'Iriſh ſoyles moſt dreadfull darters rere,
Who in the skirmiſh skip them here and there,
Ouer the bogges, that tremble as they runne:
The bullet vnborne, darts and arrowes wonne.

151.

But *men* their maners and their properties
Doe alter ſo, that all things alter too,
Subiect to them, and to their faculties:
As *time* doth *men*, ſo *men inuention* woo,
And things do follow as the *founders* doo.
Man onely erreth from right *reaſons* way,
Fed by fond *fancie*, guide vnto eſtray.

152.

Who doth not ſee the ſtate of fickle *man*,
His changing courſes and his diuers turnes,
Tweene aged yeeres, and time he firſt began,
How *time* his termes from time to time adiurnes?
Time tries him ſtill, to triumph him he wurnes,
And will not let him glorie long in bliſſe,
In this ſhort *progreſſe* where no *glorie* is.

Before

153.

Before his *birth* hee lies as in a caue,
Inclos'd with gore, an vgly shape hee beares:
Then by degrees hee gins some forme to haue,
And represents what after hee appeares,
A humane body: then hee comes with teares
From cell of *darkenesse*, and partakes the *light*,
A silly creature, and of silly might.

154.

Then hee forthwith liues, and forthwith he dies,
Though liuing long, hee lingers and decayes
From *youth* to *age*, hee pining, mortifies:
Although hee seeme to glorie in his dayes,
His day to die comes stealing, though it stayes.
And when he seemeth to haue constant state,
A change chops in, of more inconstant rate.

155.

Man neuer standeth, but like wauing *tyde*,
That comes and goes, now calme, then full of ire:
Now sings he sweete, all sorrowes layd aside,
Then groweth *griefe*, welcome to no desire,
Heau'd vp, hurl'd downe, dismay'd, or in aspire:
Grac'd now, then in disdaine, now in the sunne
Of sweetest *fauour*: then eclips'd, vndonne.

156.

Th'inconstant state of *man* inconstant, mooues
My constant Muse to mourne and peuse a while,
Sad and in silence, as my state approoues,
Beset with sorrowes, comforts in exile,
Fed with imperfect promise (wounding smile.)
Reft of releefe, the worlds *change* I sing.
This first approou'd, a second part I bring.

157.

Wherein the changes of mans glorie seene,
Of *Cities, Kingdomes, tongues*, and *Nations*,
Shall well approoue, *Time* strong, a checkleſſe Queene,
Yeeldes not to idle allegations,
That fruitleſſe fancie frames for faſhions,
To colour *ſinne*, and gloze fond vanitie,
With fayned habite of ſweete pietie.

FINIS.